

PRESS RELEASE



The Cleveland Museum of Art

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FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

FREE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART REALIST TRADITION MINI-COURSE OFFERED IN WILLOUGHBY

The Cleveland Museum of Art is offering a free four-part art mini-course at the School of Fine Arts, 38660 Mentor Avenue, Willoughby beginning Wednesday, October 29, 1980 at 10:00 am. Taught by Barbara Kathman, instructor in the Department of Art History and Education at the Museum, the mini-course is presented in conjunction with the Museum originated exhibition, The Realist Tradition: French Painting and Drawing 1830-1900, on view at the Museum from November 12, 1980 through January 18, 1981. The art mini-course, which is being offered in a dozen different community locations in the Greater Cleveland area, is designed to introduce the major traveling exhibition to the public prior to its Museum opening, and like the exhibition itself, to examine the neglected works of nineteenth-century French Realist artists.

The first three sessions are slide-lectures presented at the School of Fine Arts, while the fourth lecture, presented at The Cleveland Museum of Art, will be a guided tour of the exhibition itself, scheduled at a time convenient to participants. The exhibition tour will also be conducted by a staff instructor from the Museum's Department of Art History and Education.

The first lecture in the series traces the history of French art from the seventeenth century through the early nineteenth century, setting the scene for the Realist movement. The second lecture examines the development of the movement between 1830 and 1870, linking artists such as Courbet, Millet, and Breton with the social issues of the time. In the third lecture, the evolution of Realism after 1870 is studied along with works of Degas, Raffaelli, Bastien-Lepage, and others. The contemporary influences of science, photography, and literature will also be noted.

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The final session of each lecture-series will meet in the Special Exhibitions Gallery at the Museum to view the more than 250 paintings and drawings in The Realist Tradition: French Painting and Drawing 1830-1900. Some of the works in the exhibition have not been seen since the nineteenth century when many were well known and some purchased by museums and private collectors.

Although Courbet and Millet, two of the 70 artists represented in the exhibition, have been the focus of recent scholarly interest, the works of other Realist painters such as François Bonvin, Jules Bastien-Lepage, Léon Lhermitte, Théodule Ribot, and Antoine Vollon have been largely overlooked.

Organized by Gabriel P. Weisberg, Curator of Art History and Education at The Cleveland Museum of Art, the exhibition is accompanied by a catalog written by Dr. Weisberg and a free booklet prepared by Helen O. Borowitz, associate curator of Art History and Education.

To register for the free art mini-courses, participants must either obtain registration forms from any of the lecture locations around the city or directly from the Art History and Education Department at The Cleveland Museum of Art. Completed postage-paid forms can then be returned to the Museum by mail or in person. Registrations will be accepted through the first session at each location although enrollment will be on a first come, first served basis limited by the available space at each location. Telephone registrations will not be accepted.

All lectures, except those at the Federal Reserve Bank, will be no more than ninety minutes in length. The Federal Reserve Bank lectures, open to all in the downtown area, will be held to one hour to accomodate downtown lunch hours. Gallery tour schedules for each location will be announced at the third session after instructors have had the opportunity to confer with participants. A complete mini-course schedule with dates, times, and addresses of the various locations follows:

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3-mini-courses

Mondays: October 27, November 3 and 10

- 10:00 am Orange Community Library
31300 Chagrin Boulevard
Pepper Pike, OH
44124
- 1:00 pm Parma Area Fine Arts Council
7441 West Ridgewood Drive
Parma, OH
44129
- 7:30 pm Berea Public Library
7 Berea Commons
Berea, OH
44107
- 7:30 pm Jewish Community Center
3505 Mayfield Road
Cleveland Heights, OH
44118

Wednesdays: October 29, November 5 and 12

- 11:00 am School of Fine Arts
38660 Mentor Avenue
Willoughby, OH
44094
- 12:00 pm Federal Reserve Bank
6th and Superior
Cleveland, OH
44101
- 1:30 pm The Beck Center
17801 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH
44107
- 7:30 pm Beachwood Community Arts Council
Beachwood Middle School
2860 Richmond Road
Beachwood, OH
44122
- 7:30 pm Rocky River Public Library
1600 Hampton Road
Rocky River, OH
44116

(more)

4-mini-courses

Thursdays: October 30, November 6 and 13

7:30 pm | Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library
2345 Lee Road
Cleveland Heights, OH
44118

7:30 pm Shaker Heights Public Library
Bertram Woods Branch
20600 Fayette Road
Shaker Heights, OH
44122

Fridays: October 31, November 7 and 14

10:00 am Mayfield County Regional Library
6080 Wilson Mills Road
Mayfield Village, OH
44143

For further information on the free art mini-courses offered by The Cleveland Museum of Art contact Ellen Breitman, coordinator of the mini-course program, at 421-7340, extension 404.

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